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NEWSPAPER DISCLOSES POPE'S BEAGLE PROPOSAL

PY081619 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 7 Jan 80 pp 1, 6

[By J. Iglesias Rouco]

[Text] The map which can be seen at the foot of the page--which for the moment we will call "map of the pope"--has not been drawn by Bishop Samore, because as he clearly stated when John Paul II handed over to Foreign Minister Pastor his proposal on the Beagle Channel, cartography and political geography are not among the specialities of Rome--at least they have been nonexistent since the period of Garibaldi. Nevertheless, this map has been drawn in Buenos Aires during the past few days according to all the features outlined in the text of the "proposal"--including the most and least accurate ones--to which our informers have had access from the most reliable sources. This map of the pope will serve, however, to show the difficulties and worries which, on the eve of the date "suggested" as a deadline by the Vatican City, not only the military junta but all the political and social sectors of the country are facing.

According to the "proposal," the drawing of a line which we will call a bordering or involving polygon [poligonal limitrofe] "must"--according to the advice of Rome--start from an imaginary point A, located 12 miles east of another no-longer-so-imaginary point called XX. This point XX will be exactly at latitude 55° 07' 00" south and longitude 66° 25'00" west, which the experts could better appreciate by observing the Chilean letter No 1,307 of 1956. But if that letter is not sufficient, the scope of the "proposal" will be measured even better by remembering that XX is the origin--in Argentine waters of the Atlantic Ocean--to the so-called straight-base lines [lineas de bases rectas] located between parallels 41 and 56 south, outlined by the Chilean Navy's Hydrographic Institute in the scale 112,000,000, according to decree No 416 of 1977. This decree has become the basis of the maritime polygonal in the Atlantic, the Pacific and the Beagle Channel, "outlined" by Chile immediately following the release of the arbitration decision by Queen Elizabeth II. That is, the imaginary point A, established 12 miles east of XX, which the Vatican now "proposes" as the starting point of the border polygon, considerably improves on the situation which the Chileans themselves have sought through their own interpretation of the arbitration.

If we rely on the Rome resolution, the current bordering polygonal will have to pass the same distance from the islands Nueva, Evout, Barnevelt, and the extreme southeast point of the Deceit Rocks and will end 12 miles south of Cape Horn, that is, at point B, according to the text of the "proposal."

How can the "peace zone" be created? Very simple: Beginning at point A (see map on interior page), a straight line is drawn on a bearing of 120°, that is, a bit north of southeast. Another straight line drawn from 12 miles south of Cape Horn, and on a exact south bearing, will establish a sector with a radius of 200 miles which will span more than a quadrant [as published] (to obtain a quadrant the first straight line should follow a direction of 135° and not of 120°.) In virtue of the "proposal," Argentina and Chile will be able to carry out "common or agreed upon" activities within that sector--in this paragraph the word "or" instead of "and" supposes a significant conceptual element--in searching for, exploring and exploiting the natural resources in the zone. This sector is extended 6 miles west of the bordering polygon established in the pope's plan. Does it mean that Buenos Aires must necessarily come to an agreement with Santiago, Chile, to carry out "common" activities in that strip? It is not known for sure, and this will certainly be one of the chapters, among many others, which must be submitted to the Vatican for further "explanations."

Just as this newspaper revealed at the time, Rome excludes in its "proporal" any kind of sovereign territorial presence of Argentina in the area between the Beagle Channel and Cape Horn. All islands or islets, without exception, located west of the bordering or involving polygon, will come under Chilean sovereignty, including the Island of Hornes. Nevertheless, Vatican makes the following concessions to Argentina, which has never given up its rights of sovereignty there:

1. Argentina and Chile will be able to share one "point"--not a portion or part of the territory--on the island Nueva.

2. Argentina will be able to install beacons [senales] in each of the islets Evout and Barnevelt.

3. Argentina will have free navigation rights in the sea which extends westward from the bordering polygon, including access to Ushuaia.

The Vatican has demanded a small concession for itself: A sanctuary must be built in Cape Horn, under Chilean sovereignty, dedicated to the "Argentine-Chilean peace."

As for the rest, the "proposal" recognizes Argentine sovereignty over the ocean located east of the involving or bordering Polygon, beginning with the 12 miles of waters between the polygon and the eastern coasts of the islands Nueva, Evout, Barnevelt, Deceit and Hornos, toward the east. To the west of that polygon, all waters would be under Chilean sovereignty.

From what we know, the approximately eight chapters of the "proposal" only mention the 1881 border treaty but not the additional and clarifying protocol of 1893, not the clarifying act of the 1902 May pacts, nor any other contractual documents which are still in effect. Furthermore, Rome indicates that the "proposal" has "no relation whatsoever" to the Antarctic.

Of course nothing has been learned about what the pope must have said to Pastor a the moment of giving him the document. John Paul II probably explained during that long t ting the reasons which have led Rome to make such a "proposal." Moreover, on this aspe at it is known that the mediator's collaborators have always stressed, during the past few years, a reasoning which is "decisive" for them: Argentina has many more human and territorial resources than Chile, and it is, therefore, the nation which must make greater sacrifices in a case like the Beagle Channel. Thus--at least as it would be explained in the Vatican--the fact that the "peace zone" is established only east of the meridian of Cape Horn, with a projection of 200 miles into Argentine waters, and not, at least in part, to the west in the territory granted to Chile, as would seem more equitable. This would explain also the negotiating "progression" during the past few months, always favorable to Chile, which has made from document 11/80, which is almost a perfectly acceptable "working document", (see LA PRENSA of 21 October), a final offer which presents serious international and domestic problems to the Argentine Government.

According to our sources, a group of retired officers from the three branches has asked for a meeting with the military junta to discuss the subject. There is also much restlessness in the civilian sectors. In view of all this, it is appropriate to ask whether among the final--and more subtle--objectives of the Vatican is not included promoting a new kind of political "dialogue" in Argentina.

SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT TO MEET WITH POPE

PY082336 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2051 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Jan (NA)--Reliable sources close to the Catholic Church have revealed that Pope John Paul II will meet with the president of the Argentine Supreme Court, Adolfo Gabrielli, before 15 January.

It has not been determined if the meeting is linked with the Vatican's proposal to solve the border conflict with Chile, but in church circles it is believed that the pope will discuss the border conflict with the Supreme Court president.

It was also learned that another member of the Supreme Court, Abelardo Rossi, will attend the meeting as well.

The two court members will be in Rome in the next few days, taking advantage of the court recess in Argentina, a situation which was reportedly used by the pope to set up the meeting. Former Argentine Ambassador to the Vatican Pedro Frias, closely linked to church circles, reportedly participated in setting up the meeting.

It is also believed that the pope may take advantage of this opportunity to learn the Argentine legal position regarding other matters such as human rights, which at one time created great concern.

FOREIGN MINISTRY UPSET BY MALVINAS DECISION

PY082012 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1733 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jan (NA)--Despite the tight secrecy at the Foreign Ministry this morning regarding the decision taken by the Malvinas Islands' Legislative Council, it has been learned that British Ambassador Anthony Williams was summoned to appear at San Martin Palace this afternoon.

The announcement of the decision of the council rejecting any possibility of continuing negotiations between London and Buenos Aires on the restoration of Argentine sovereignty in the Malvinas Islands caused unrest in the Foreign Ministry.

A San Martin Palace spokesman said this morning, "That is a press report about which we have no official information."

However, it was soon learned that Ambassador Williams had been summoned and that at around 1900 San Martin Palace would release a report through Ambassador Angel Olivieri Lopez, director of the Antarctic and Malvinas Islands Department.

A press report received in this capital last night disclosed that the Malvinas Islands Legislative Council has rejected the proposals made by British Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Anthony Ridley during his visit to the archipelago at the end of 1980.

At the same time, the Legislative Council approved a motion by the Malvinas farmers in which they request the British Government to freeze negotiations with Argentina for a period of 25 years. This decision was made by a vote of seven to one. The vote against this decision was by an even more radical cleric who requested that the subject of restoring Argentine sovereignty in the Malvinas Islands never be discussed again.

EGYPTIAN STATE MINISTER GHALI CONTINUES VISIT

Signs Cooperation Agreement

PY081345 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2145 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Jan (NA)--The Argentine foreign minister, Carlos Washington Pastor, and the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Butrus B. Ghali, today signed a scientific and technological cooperation agreement.

It was noted that the agreement provides for the proper legal framework to carry out reciprocal programs that will be feasible and beneficial for the development of the two countries.

The agreement also provides for the establishment of other agreements in specific scientific and technological fields, and it assures the participation of private organizations and institutions in the execution of cooperation programs and activities.

The agreement that was signed today also includes the creation of a joint commission that will hold meetings alternately in Cairo and Buenos Aires. It will study and enforce those agreements that are achieved.

The joint commission will also exchange information on the development of the programs and activities of common interest.

Gives Press Conference

PY081720 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2355 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Jan (NA)--Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, today stated that an organization similar to the security pact maintained among northern Atlantic countries has to be established to serve as a link between the countries of Africa and Latin America in the southern Atlantic.

Ghali, who tomorrow ends his 4-day visit to Argentina, this afternoon gave a press conference in which he stressed that he found "a favorable reaction" to the mission which has brought him to Argentina.

The Egyptian minister of state began here a tour through Latin America, that will be continued in Chile, in order to explain the major guidelines of Cairo's foreign policy and request support for the diplomatic action of this country to achieve peace in the Middle East and the autonomy of the Palestine people.

This morning Ghali returned from San Carlos de Bariloche and met with the news media after having signed a scientific and technical cooperation agreement with Argentina.

In his press conference, the Egyptian minister denied having maintained contact with Palestine leader Yasir 'Arafat or with the Palestine Liberation Organization. At the same time, he ruled out the deterioration of "the Camp David spirit" that produced the agreement through which Cairo recognized the Government of Israel.

The Egyptian diplomat began by apologizing for not speaking Spanish, but he made a promise "to speak in Spanish on his next visit." He explained in English that he "had found a favorable reaction among Argentine officials to the objectives which brought him to Latin America."

Ghali further explained some concepts on security in the south Atlantic since he "would not want to be misunderstood" and he elaborated that there is a security program in the north Atlantic among countries of America and Europe. In the same manner "there should also exist one between Latin America and Africa."

He also said that the vital objective of his visits to several countries of the continent was to explain the foreign policy of his country "which always counted on Argentine support." Ghali defined the final Egyptian goal as "the consolidation of peace in the Middle East and the achievement of autonomy for the Palestinian people."

When asked about the content of President as-Sadat's message to Gen Jorge Videla which Ghali handed over to the Argentine president, Ghali replied with a smile: "You should ask that question of President Videla. It would be incorrect on my part to disclose it." But he at once made clear that it was "a message of friendship and peace."

Leaves for Chile

PY081457 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1300 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jan (TELAM)--Butrus Ghali, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, who yesterday signed a scientific and technological cooperation agreement, left this morning for Chile.

He left aboard Iberia flight No 996 that left at 0830 from the Ezeiza International Airport for Santiago, Chile.

The Egyptian state minister of foreign affairs arrived at 0810 at the international airport and because of his haste declined to make any comments. He was seen off by Ambassador Juan Carlos Katzestein, the chief of the Foreign Ministry Protocol Department; and by Mustafa Muhammad Tawfiq, the Egyptian ambassador to Argentina.

PLANNING MINISTRY CRITICIZES STATE ENTERPRISES

PY082126 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] The Planning and Coordination Ministry is planning to promote a policy of reorganization for the state and mixed enterprises of the country with the aim of converting them into really productive economic national instruments. An assessment document released yesterday, Wednesday, says that those enterprises have become philantrophic or charitable institutions through their administration over the years, disregarding the true objectives for which they were created.

The Planning and Coordination Ministry believes that it is necessary to reorganize them so that they can fulfill their role as truly profitable and productive enterprises and let the government, through other organizations, take over the social and political tasks assigned to them until now.

The document, entitled "Management Effectiveness," defines the concept of profitable enterprises, adding that in the true sense of the word it has very seldom been possible to define them as really profitable for the country. The document calls the state enterprises political and social aid factors, and criticizes their present status and points out that they have a different kind of objective. It says that among Bolivian private business they are widely thought to be ineffective, with almost a total lack of drive and an inability to cooperate with the rest of the world. This opinion is explained through the fact that many state enterprises emerged because of protective measures for national industry, consisting of subsidies, tax exemptions, control of competition, state financing, etc.

Regarding prices, the Planning and Coordination Ministry makes some comments on how to prevent distortions in that field. It says: As a result of the lack of knowledge of the role played by relative prices in the functioning of the economy, many measures of a political nature have been applied to prices, distorting them and thus depriving the economic system of a mechanism of invaluable and irreplaceable usefulness. In the field of competitive production, the price is an important indicator of the shortage of a product or service. The price level therefore reflects a real phenomenon, namely, the supply of a product. This role has not been understood and, without any serious study, the difference between the real and the artificial price has been made up of a subsidy paid by the society, benefiting both rich and poor, national citizens and foreigners and, what is even more serious, many of the goods and services with fixed prices are those used by high-income sectors.

BRIEFS

POLICE CHIEF PROMOTED--The Bolivian Government has promoted the current chief of the Bolivian police, Roberto Quinteros Encinas, to the rank of general for the first time in the history of the country. [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 25 Dec 80 p 3 PY]

UNIVERSITY TELEVISION--The university television station is broadcasting cultural and educational programs on Tuesday, Thursdays and Saturdays from 1717 to 2130 on an experiemental basis for 3 months. The university is using channel 5 with a 100-watt transmitter and is broadcasting on 76 to 82 megahertz. [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 25 Dec 80 p 5 PY]

COLOR TELEVISION--President Luis Garcia Meza inaugurated the color television system of the channel 7 national television enterprise during a ceremony in La Paz yesterday. [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 25 Dec 80 p 1 PY]

AGREEMENT WITH FRANCE ON PEACEFUL USE OF URANIUM

FY080200 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 7 Jan 81 p 15

[Text] In a brief ceremony held yesterday, during which the French ambassador made some good-humored remarks, Brazil and France assumed the commitment not to use the uranium hexafluoride to be manufactured in the plant that will be set up in Resende, Rio de Janeiro State, for building nuclear weapons or for any other military application. The commitment was made through contracts signed between Nuclebras and the Pechiney Ugine Kuhlman-Upuk uranium company.

Ambassador Beliard humbly confessed that the first time he received instructions from Paris to negotiate the building of a yellow cake conversion plant in Brazil he had no idea of the meaning of some technical terms, only vaguely recalling that the word "hexafluoride could have its root in the Greek language he studied in college."

Under the terms of the notes that were formally exchanged yesterday between the French ambassador and the Brazilian foreign minister at Itamaraty, the two governments committed themselves not to use the uranium hexafluoride manufactured in France and exported to Brazil for building nuclear weapons or any nuclear explosive device or any other military application. The same commitment is binding for the uranium hexafluoride to be produced in the plant that will be erected in Resende, as well as for nuclear material or special fissionable material which could be obtained from the uranium hexafluoride imported from France or produced in Brazil.

DELFIM NETO: PROALCOOL PROGRAM INFLATIONARY, VITAL

FY052250 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Jan 81 p 18

[Text] The National Alcohol Program [Proalcool] is highly inflationary, but it is important and vital for supporting the automobile industry, asserted Minister Delfim Neto when analyzing the long-term projects that the government is simultaneously undertaking.

He asserted that Proalcool is permitting the adjustment of our economy to the oil crisis, but it is not going to increase the end product. And what is the end product of Proalcool, the minister asks? He answers: It is not alcohol, it is passengers transported per kilometer. It is not going to increase the capacity of transport, it is simply going to replace the gasoline that was being used to do the transporting. But in order to achieve this Brazil must spend approximately $1.5 billion without having a final answer in terms of increasing the end product.

The minister admitted that the support given the automobile industry is necessary due to the volume of employment and that the role that it represents involves a highly inflationary investment that the common consumer, pressured by inflation, needs to understand.

We must maintain the employment level of this industry, but in doing so we are generating inflation. Brazil will have to face this fact with a frontal attack. People become really irritated and uncomfortable when a truth like this is talked about. We could export more sugar, and even alcohol, but I prefer to generate more jobs for Brazilians than for foreigners. Meanwhile, there is one fact upon which we must insist, and always insist: Proalcool is a sensational program which will allow Brazil to become motorized, but the government is not improving the above-mentioned end product. In diverting funds for Proalcool, the government is taking these funds from the community and applying them to a decidedly inflationary program.

This means that in order to keep such an important industry functioning we are retreating slightly, in terms of inflation, with regard to our income. The automobile industry generates income and employment, and it is going to help us with our exports. But just because of this we cannot ignore the negative fact that the Proalcool program is inflationary. Everyone wants to own his own car, and everyone wants Proalcool, but nobody wants inflation.

The minister stated that together with Proalcool, which has the exclusive goal of--using large subsidies--attending to internal consumption, the government in 1981 intends to rapidly undertake a program of exporting alcohol, which will obviously not have any type of official subsidy. He revealed that there have been concrete proposals from firms of interested countries. This will allow Brazil to export, within 4 or 5 years, alcohol worth approximately $2 billion.

They are two different programs. One of them, Proalcool, has national capital and subsidies--which is, as I have said, inflationary--and is for internal consumption. The other is a program with the participation of foreign capital, without subsidies, and looks toward the export sector.

COLUMNIST OUTLINES GOVERNMENT POLITICAL AIMS

PY080244 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 7 Jan 81 p 2

[From "Castello's Column" by Carlos Castello Branco: "Priority Political Aims"]

[Text] The government has initiated efforts on a priority basis to achieve three aims: to elect Deputy Nelson Marchezan as president of the Chamber of Deputies, to keep the majority in Congress and to establish new electoral rules--the first of which, according to an official announcement, is the adoption of the district vote in as yet undefined form. Although admitting difficulties for the passage of this proposal, which is usually rejected by deputies who are used to being elected by proportional vote within their state as a whole, the government considers the district vote as an innovative democratic practice that is apt to give legitimacy to mandates. The problem is to find a formula that will run into the least resistance in the Chamber of Deputies, in other words, the formula least disturbing for vested interests.

The campaign for the election of Deputy Nelson Marchezan has been entrusted to Heitor de Aquino Ferreira, President Rigueiredo's private secretary, and the final decision on new electoral rules will be up to Gen Golbery do Couto e Silva, chief of the civilian household. The cooperation of the party for which the government wants to keep the congressional majority would be accepted, although the president of the party national executive board and the congressional leaders whose posts are up for election have not been specially invited. The restoration or consolidation of the majority in Congress will run into the homestretch early in March when Congress reconvenes. For the time being, attention is being focused on the efforts of Ferreira and the studies by General Couto e Silva.

BRIEFS

AUTO PRODUCTION--Sao Paulo, 4 Jan (AFP)--Brazilian auto production during 1980 reached 1,162,720 units. Auto exports during 1980 reached 150,089 units. In Brazil, 988,844 units were sold in 1980 as compared to 1,014,928 during 1979. Auto stock in December reached 55,000 units as compared to 21,000 units in December 1979. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1722 GMT 4 Jan 81 PY]

EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER OF STATE ARRIVES

PY081829 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, who arrived this morning in Santiago on an official 12-hour visit, said upon his arrival that Egypt hopes that friendly countries will support a proposal to find an overall solution to the Middle East problem.

Butrus Ghali was welcomed at the international airport by Chilean Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames and members of the Egyptian diplomatic delegation in Santiago.

An hour later, the foreign ministers held a work meeting at the Foreign Ministry with Chilean Foreign Ministry officials and members of the Egyptian delegation in Santiago. During the meeting, Butrus Ghali noted that Egypt hopes that with the support of friendly nations it will be able to find an overall solution to the Middle East problem. He also said that through negotiations the Israelis have abandoned some Egyptian territories, including Palestine territory. He said that his country hopes that a Palestine government will be established so that it will be able to hold direct negotiations with the Israelis to find the basis to achieve peace in the region.

The Chilean foreign minister noted the traditional and fruitful diplomatic relations between Chile and Egypt. He added that, following its peaceful tradition, Chile has expressed at international forums its concern to find a peaceful, stable, and overall solution to the Middle East problem. He also said that Chile appreciates the effort that the Egyptian Government is making to achieve this objective.

Butrus Ghali leaves Chile this evening to continue his tour through several Latin American countries.

Further Report

PY090141 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Chile and Egypt have agreed to strengthen their scientific, cultural and technological cooperation. This is the result of the short visit made by Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, to our capital.

The Egyptian official made an official visit to our country in answer to an invitation by Chilean Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames. The two ministers held a cordial meeting during which matters of mutual interest were discussed. The two officials also exchanged opinions about the international situation, finding out that there is wide agreement between the two governments in the ways to analyze various aspects of the international situation.

The two ministers reaffirmed their countries' support for the principles of international law ruling relations between states: the self-determination of the peoples, equal sovereignty of states, noninterference in the internal affairs of other states and the peaceful solution of international conflicts.

Minister Butrus Ghali particularly referred to the Middle East situation and the efforts made by his country to establish a solid and lasting peace in the region. The head of Egyptian foreign affairs said that more nations should recognize the self-determination of the Palestine people and their right to establish their own state. In this regard, Rene Rojas Galdames recalled the Chilean position regarding the Middle East crisis, reiterating that our country believes that all peace efforts in this region should be encouraged by the international community.

The two ministers also agreed that the third Chilean-Egyptian mixed commission will be held in Cairo next May. The Egyptian minister also invited his Chilean counterpart to visit his country in the near future. Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames accepted the invitation.

LOPEZ PORTILLO-REAGAN JUAREZ MEETING HAILED

PA070439 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] Yesterday in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua Province, Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo and U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan began a personal relationship which will also be the beginning of a new and very fruitful stage in bilateral relations. The meeting was very cordial, and the expression of good intentions was frank and honest. A bilateral relationship based on mutual respect and the desire for understanding between the two nations can set an example right now when the international scene is not rife with tokens of real friendship.

The history of Mexico and the United States concerning their mutual trade, despite some previous deteriorations, has strengthened the (?affection) of the two nations and their governments.

When it comes to neighbors, it is normal to have had and have problems, but it is also logical for harmony to have made headway. The Ciudad Juarez meeting in Chihuahua Province was held without a strict agenda and without major protocol requirements. It presages an era of equally open and well-intentioned formal relations, as well as very productive ones. Those good formal relations will further improve the effect of the attitudes of the two chiefs of state.

The Mexican president said that the meeting was very positive. This briefly shows what the climate of the meeting was. Let's hope this way of talking and having personal contacts between the two presidents will become the norm for bilateral relations. The world can well do with such episodes in which cordiality is not understood as a mere, simple formality, but marks and defines the genuine attitudes of the two sides.

CANADIAN MINISTERS ARRIVE FOR COMMITTEE MEETING

PA080415 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] The Mexican secretary of patrimony and industrial development has stressed the possibility that Canada might provide Mexico with the technology to produce nuclear energy based on natural uranium. He made this statement at the Mexico City International Airport after welcoming the Canadian secretary of state for external affairs and the energy minister. The Canadian officials, along with the industry and commerce and agriculture ministers, have arrived in Mexico to participate in the fourth meeting of the Mexican-Canadian Ministerial Committee which will be opened by the Mexican foreign secretary.

EL SALVADOR

PRESIDENT DUARTE ANNOUNCES NEW GOVERNMENT TEAM

PA081312 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0425 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The new working team of the Salvadoran Government junta announced here tonight by junta President Jose Napoleon Duarte, is the following:

Minister of the Presidency	Pablo Mauricio Albergue
Junta private secretary	Rodolfo Suarez Suay
Information secretary	Antonio Diaz
Minister of foreign relations	Fidel Chavez Mena
Under secretary	Alejandro Gomez Vides
Minister of defense	Col Jose Guillermo Garcia
Under secretary	Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo
Minister of Justice	Mario Antonio Solano
Under secretary	Dina Castro de Callejas
Attorney general	Vicente Arturo Argumedo
Minister of the interior	Jose Ovidio Hernandez Delgado
Under secretary	Rodolfo Antonio Revelo
Minister of Education	Carlos Aquilino Duarte Funes
Under secretary of education	Juan Jose Interiano
Under secretary of culture and sports	Ruth de Sandoval
Minister of agriculture and livestock	Joaquin Guevara
Under secretary	Lt Col Jose Galileo Torres
Minister of labor	Julio Alfredo Samayoa
Under secretary	Jose Alejandro Gallegos
Minister of public works	Jorge Alberto Morales Guillen
Under secretary of [words indistinct]	Luis Escobar Moisa
Under secretary of housing and urban development	Jose Manuel Murillo
Minister of finance	Jorge Eduardo Tenorio
Under secretary of finance	Guillermo Orellana Mixco
Under secretary of revenue	Eduardo Melendez Flores
Public defender of the poor	Carlos Mauricio Molina
Minister of the economy	Guillermo Diaz Salazar
Under secretary of economy	Oscar Raymundo Melgar
Under secretary of integration and international economy	Rigoberto Monge
Minister of economic and social planning	Atilio Vieytez
Under secretary	Carlos Federico Paredes Castillo
Minister of public health	Jose Ramon Avalos Navarrete
Under secretary	Gonzalo Beltran Castro

All these officials will take their oaths of office on Friday, 9 January.

The ministers who have been replaced are: Col Rodolfo Giron Flores, as minister of public health and social assistance, and Octavio Orellana Solis, as minister of agriculture and livestock.

There have also been changes in the under secretaries of defense; revenue; integration and international economy; youth, culture and sports; labor; housing and urban development; education and the interior.

The changes have affected the junta private secretariat, the information secretariat and the office of the attorney general.

The government junta remains as follows:

President	Jose Napoleon Duarte
Vice president and commander in chief of the armed forces	Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez
Special minister for agrarian reform	Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich
Minister in charge of public health and social assistance	Jose Ramon Avalos Navarrete

Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano was ousted from the junta on 15 December. He was appointed as defense attache at the Salvadoran Embassy in Spain, a post that he rejected. At present his whereabouts is unknown.

This reorganization represents the implementation of pacts made in December by the Christian Democratic Party and the armed forces.

PRESIDENT DUARTE WARNS PEOPLE AGAINST FDR PLANS

PA090436 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0413 GMT 9 Jan 81

[Text] San Salvador, 9 Jan (LATIN)--President Jose Napoleon Duarte last night addressed the Salvadoran people over a radio and television network and declared this year to be the year of peace in El Salvador. He added that "in order to achieve this, the Salvadoran people must unite in the struggle against the extreme leftist and extreme rightist groups that are provoking chaos in this country."

He said that the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR] is trying to sow panic and deceit through the numerous communiques it is circulating inside and outside the country. Duarte asked all Salvadorans and the rest of the world not to believe "all lies that the extreme left is spreading everywhere."

He added that "tomorrow (actually today), disorders and disturbances are being announced for tomorrow, but similar announcements have been made for several months. Much has been said that the final actions are due, that the final struggle is coming, that the general insurrection is upcoming, and after all, nothing has happened."

The armed forces, he said, will guarantee the security of the people, and is therefore willing to halt any type of disorder which the extreme left might try to carry out today or any other day.

ARMY ENCOURAGES PEOPLE NOT TO JOIN STRIKE

PA090216 Paris AFP in Spanish 0141 GMT 9 Jan 81

[Text] San Salvador, 8 Jan (AFP)--The Salvadoran Army today urged the people not to join the nationwide strike which is being announced here in flysheets which, however, do not specify a date. A military communique broadcast here said that tomorrow might be the day slated by the opposition Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR] for the beginning of the strike. For its part, the FDR has urged the people to listen to the clandestine Radio Liberation and "to be alert to the instructions that the station will give for the forthcoming nationwide strike."

The army communique blames the FDR for the disturbances which might occur tomorrow when, according to the government's forecast, the strike organized by the opposition groups might begin.

Rumors on the beginning of the strike as well as of "the general offensive" have been circulating, in spite of the denials made by the leadership of the FDR and of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN]. Both the FMLN and the FDR have said that these actions will not take place yet but the forces opposing the government junta "should be prepared" for them.

'OFFICIAL SOURCES' DENY CURFEW, MARTIAL LAW PLANS

PA082318 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1801 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] In response to the continuous speculation, official sources have announced that it is absolutely untrue that there are plans to decree a curfew or martial law if the problems caused by the leftists continue.

Our sources indicated that these rumors are the product of the imagination of the leftists themselves, who are seeking to take power by violence instead of through the democratic electoral process that has always been offered by the armed forces.

The sources say that so far there have been no plans for measures such as martial law or a curfew since there are sufficient reasons to allow the citizens to continue to earn their daily bread. Much to the contrary, the defense minister maintains that there should be a political rather than a military solution to the situation that we are experiencing.

ARMY SAYS 2 SOLDIERS KILLED IN HELICOPTER ACCIDENT

PA090302 Paris AFP in Spanish 2336 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] San Salvador, 8 Jan (AFP)--A Salvadoran Air Force helicopter "had an accident today due to mechanical failure when it was conducting counterinsurgency operations in the outskirts of San Agustin, "Usulutan Department, 70 km southeast of San Salvador, army sources have reported here.

Two soldiers died in the accident, according to the military communique, but their names were not disclosed. The pilot and another person "were unharmed."

The helicopter, a turboprop French-made Dulet with five seats "was seriously damaged," the bulletin added, explaining that "the accident was due to failure in the fuel system."

RADIO LIBERATION REPORTS ON GUERRILLA ACTIONS

Harassment, Attacks

PA082121 (Clandestine) Radio Liberation in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Revolutionary forces attacked, with bazookas, the regional headquarters at Mejicanos City, north of San Salvador, and left the building almost totally destroyed.

The national police post at Colonia Sacamed was also harassed.

The treasury police post at San Antonio Abad was attacked, as well as the military hospital under construction at Colonia las Rosas. A bomb was exploded near the national police headquarters, terrorizing the henchmen who were careful not to venture out of their quarters.

An army convoy on a patrol mission was attacked at Mejicanos.

In San Miguel, in the east, one treasury policeman died in a clash with our forces.

Fighting in Guazapa

PA082002 (Clandestine) Radio Liberation in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] The revolutionary forces have continued to put up fierce resistance to the massive operation of extermination launched by the fascist junta in the area of Guazapa Hill. In carrying out these incursions, the reactionary troops have suffered casualties among both officers and troops.

The crash of a plane whose crewmembers perished and the detonation of a mine which killed about 15 enemy soldiers are only examples of the intensity of the clashes which have been going on for more than 70 hours.

The revolutionary forces have inflicted deadly blows on the rear guard and the supply lines of the puppet army.

Self-defense squads and revolutionary militias of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front were operating in several locations on the road to Suchitoto where they set up barricades.

The bombings in the Guazapa area by the enemy's air force has forced hundreds of families to flee their homes on the slopes of the volcano.

Ambush of Military Convoy

PA082112 (Clandestine) Radio Liberation in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Squads of our revolutionary forces ambushed a military convoy in San Marcos on the outskirts of San Salvador. The outcome of this attack was six dead soldiers.

Carrying out denunciation and agitation activities, our popular militias set up barricades in downtown San Salvador. These actions were to repudiate the massacre carried out by the enemy's armed forces on the slopes of the San Salvador Volcano, in San Antonio Abad, and in San Ramon.

SOMOZISTS ALLEGEDLY ENTER COUNTRY FROM GUATEMALA

FL081850 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] The representation in Cuba of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] has reported that 500 former Somoza guardsmen have entered El Salvador through Santa Ana Department on the Guatemala border. This force is part of the new Salvadoran Army brigade recently announced by Jose Napoleon Duarte, member of the military-Christian Democratic junta, during the reorganization of the government junta. This interventionist force is part of a contingent of 2,000 former Somoza guardsmen who are awaiting orders to attack the Salvadoran people.

The FMLN representation also announced that the Honduran coordinator of solidarity with El Salvador has reported that a large-scale operation involving the Honduran and Salvadoran armies is being prepared for 15 January. The operation will reportedly take place on the border area between the two countries for the purpose of recapturing the territories liberated by the FMLN. This operation is irrefutable proof of the nature of the Honduran-Salvadoran peace treaty recently signed between the two countries. It also represents another proof of the interventionist aims of imperialism which wants to prevent a triumph of the heroic Salvadoran people at any cost.

FMLN DEFENDS PRESENCE OF INTERNATIONALIST FIGHTERS

PA082231 (Clandestine) Radio Liberation in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Editorial]

[Text] The international news agencies controlled by the U.S. imperialists have intensified their misinformation campaign in an effort to confuse the public regarding the development of the struggle of the Salvadoran people. All of this systematic campaign of lies is proof of the weakness of the military-Christian Democratic dictatorship.

In a dispatch from San Salvador yesterday, the ASSOCIATED PRESS stated that the final guerrilla offensive has been defeated and that combatants of various nationalities are fighting in the revolutionary armed forces.

We tell the Salvadoran people and the world that the final offensive of the revolutionary forces has just begun. In the first battles, they are already showing their unshakeable courage and great military capacity which has enabled them to inflict heavy blows on the enemy.

Recent proof of our statement is seen in the setbacks suffered by the regular army in the city of Guazapa, site of intense clashes where our armed forces are defeating the dictatorship's army. Other evidence is the overwhelming failure of the encirclement and annihilation offensives which the genocidal army launched in the departments of Morazan, Chalatenango and San Vicente.

So far, all attempts by the enemy to annihilate the revolutionary armed forces of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] have met with the iron-willed combative spirit of the FMLN. The way in which the transnational news agencies are reporting the participation of internationalist combatants undoubtedly seeks to confuse and to awaken flag-waving patriotic feelings, but basically it seeks to justify the presence of assassin mercenaries in the ranks of the dictatorship's army.

To us, the participation of internationalist combatants has a deep revolutionary significance. They are struggling for the liberation of our people. All peoples have a legitimate right to accept international solidarity. If there are companeros of various nationalities who are willing to generously offer their blood for the liberation of the people, there is no reason why we should reject such a noble gesture. Bolivar, O'Higgins, Sucre, San Martin, Morazan and Farabundo Marti were tireless internationalist fighters.

RADIO LIBERATION REPORTS GDR SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN

PA082337 (Clandestine) Radio Liberation in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] The committee of solidarity with El Salvador in Berlin and members of the editorial staff of the newspaper [name indistinct] organized an economic campaign: arms for El Salvador. The campaign was begun on 3 November with a public appeal in the newspaper. The various German committees of solidarity with El Salvador distributed flysheets with the appeal in their respective cities. So far, the campaign has been a complete success with a large sum of money already collected.

FMLN MEMBERS COMMENT ON CURRENT SITUATION

Representative in Cuba

PA081237 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Our correspondent, Maria Elena Calderin, has interviewed Arnoldo Bernal Cheves, member of the representation that the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] of El Salvador has in Cuba. The interview took place in Havana. During the first part of this interview, Bernal talks about the offensive that the Salvadoran revolutionary forces are carrying out:

[Begin recording] Our people have entered the phase in which the political and military conditions are present for launching the final offensive that will end more than 50 years of a military dictatorship that has dominated our suffering people.

At this moment, we are facing the last maneuver of U.S. imperialism in our country, the last maneuver of the Salvadoran oligarchy. We are facing the military-Christian Democratic junta.

At this moment, our guerrilla forces, our militia forces and the combative movement of the Salvadoran masses are ready.

Our guerrillas have been watching all the vanguard military barracks that the enemy has established in strategic sites--especially in the country's northern region, Santa Ana, Chalatenango, Cabanas, San Miguel, Morazan and La Union--in order to prevent the unstoppable advance of the Salvadoran revolutionary movement and to repress and massacre our people.

At this moment, the most important barracks have been swept away. In this regard we can mention the barracks of Torola, Cacahuatique, Perquin, Arcatao, San Antonio de los Ranchos, Nombre de Jesus, San Antonio de la Cruz, Osicala, and so forth.

The peoples' militias have been preparing the right conditions among the masses for the insurrectional uprising that will create the popular power. Many cities, towns, cantons, and neighborhoods have been seized in the past few days. The people have learned how to use arms, the only language that U.S. imperialism and its assassins in El Salvador understand.

Approximately 80,000 workers are at this moment ready to initiate the general strike, the political strike that together with other forms of struggle will put an end to the shameful dictatorship. [end recording]

In another portion of the interview, Bernal referred to the position in which the Salvadoran junta finds itself:

[Begin recording] The military-Christian Democratic junta is dead. Militarily, the morale of the bourgeoisie army is very low. Politically, Christian democracy--the front for the pro-oligarchic regime for imperialist domination--has not fulfilled its task of securing political support. Furthermore, we could state that it is not Christian democracy that is in power; it is Christian democracy's reactionary gang that is in power, including such persons as Duarte and Morales Ehrlich, the ones still subsisting. These are the worst of the Christian Democracy. [end recording]

FMLN Directorate Member

PA090153 (Clandestine) Radio Liberation in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] In a recent interview, Commander Roberto Roca, member of the Executive Directorate of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], issued a call to the people of El Salvador and the world for all those who support the people's cause to get ready to play their best possible role.

Questioned about the development of the war in El Salvador, Companero Roca said that in the current people's war what we must take into account is that the activities of the people's armed forces will be combined with the insurrectional struggle of the masses and the militias in the cities and the (?suburban) areas.

Asked his opinion regarding a possible invasion by U.S. imperialism in El Salvador, he replied: In the military area, the revolutionary conviction of the Salvadoran masses has reached such a level that we believe that an armed invasion by U.S. imperialism would be a factor that would just delay the absolute victory of the Salvadoran people. It would not strategically impede victory.

Companero Roca added: The natural result of a mass intervention in the Salvadoran conflict would be the Central Americanization of the people's war, something which would, of course, complicate the situation of U.S. imperialism.

HONDURAS

FOREIGN SECRETARY READS 1980 YEAREND REPORT

PA082317 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 8 Jan 81

["Report on Foreign Ministry activities for 1980" read by Foreign Secretary Col Cesar Elvir Sierra--live or recorded]

[Text] Honduran people: With the beginning of government work for 1981, and with this work, another decade in our country's life--from the position of stability and peace to which Honduras has been raised by the will of its people and the constant democratic attitude of its government--I come as minister of foreign relations to briefly outline the events that directly or indirectly affect our country, either as a part of Central America, as a member contry of the inter-American system, or as a member of the international community, and also to note the goals and the objectives that the present government plans to achieve in the development of its foreign policy, which is directed by President Policarpo Paz Garcia and executed by the Foreign Ministry of the republic.

At this point in time, territorial area or the power of a state are no longer determining factors in influencing international affairs as decisively as in the past. That is why, without being immodest, all Hondurans can be proud of a visible awakening, of the beginning of accomplishment which has undoubtedly placed our country in an enviable position in the vanguard of the international sphere. I refer to the civic demonstration which the Honduran people offered to the entire world by going en masse to the polls on 20 April, within a climate of absolute freedom guaranteed by the armed forces, to set the bases of the process of return to a constitutional order. It has an obvious expression of political maturity and of the level of civic conscienceness that our people have achieved.

In the international sphere, the most outstanding event of 1980 for Honduras was the signing of the general peace treaty between Honduras and El Salvador. It was also the most outstanding for all Central America.

The road traveled in that effort was very long. It was necessary to overcome almost insurmountable obstacles. There was discouragement and faltering, but faith and the desire to reach the final objective made possible the great event of Lima, Peru. There, in the light of law and justice, the highly important document that reconciled two brother peoples was signed.

Due to the civic responsibility shown in the 20 April elections and our strict adherences to the procedures of peaceful solution, our country is clamoring for a different and better position in the concert of nations--the treatment deserved by a country which guides its conduct of domestic affairs and international relations with absolute respect for the people's will internally and with firm compliance with its international obligations in relations with other states.

In coexisting internationally, the Honduran Government plans to maintain and strengthen its relations with all countries. With the countries of America, our relations are guided by the postulates of the inter-American system and, with the countries of the Central American region, those relations must be based on solid feelings of brotherhood and shared views on the achievement of common objectives, if such be the will of those peoples.

We are not concerned about coexisting with countries that adopt different juridical-political structures. We do desire that by acting together for the integral development of the area, the greatest possible well-being for our peoples and the prestige of our institutions will be fostered. We seek to have the underdevelopment which we are still experiencing replaced by a balanced development of our economies by means of the best use of our resources.

Within the rules of democracy and with the means which democracy provides, Honduras can and should, by means of a union of forces and wills of the governed and the rulers, decisively choose the path of its destiny. This also means that its international policy must be fashioned and its goals outlined firmly, with vision and with a degree of flexibility that will permit it to adopt to the winds of change in today's world.

We are aware that we have to spell out an international policy. We have to structure the diplomatic service according to modern times and try to participate more actively in international meetings by adopting attitudes in line with the hopes of our people and the interests of our nation. The Honduran Government and people are making every effort to improve our country's international image and to make known our democratic beliefs and our desire for peace.

Concerning solidarity with the fraternal Central American nations, within the context of complete neutrality we have offered hospitality to Nicaraguan and Salvadoran brothers who have sought refuge of asylum on our soil or in our embassies following political turmoil.

We can say that Honduras is zealously pursuing a democratic process which will definitely culminate in a democratic government. May the will of the people be its greatest bulwark and ideological pluralism its best guarantee.

We have been quite impressed by the example set by the American people in choosing their new president by an overwhelming majority of votes. We should not view that only in terms of figures but also as the telling expression of the sentiment with which peoples choose their rulers with the hope of change, a change that will place the country in the [word indistinct] position that it should take up.

We are determined to cooperate with any political action taken by the most powerful nation in America in defense of freedom, respect for human rights, sovereignty, the self-determination of peoples and the strengthening of the unity and solidarity of all states in the inter-American system.

At the crucial time we are experiencing, bogged down by inflation and the crisis brought about by fuel price increases, we should not be pessimistic. We also have to look at the positive factors which prompt our people to fight more firmly against those and other adverse factors, thus showing the whole world that Honduras is not going to fall into economic chaos or into the grip of violence.

We harbor the greatest hope that we will solve economic problems and that we will complete the democratic process. With this thought in mind, which is not chauvinistic but world-oriented, on this occasion the Honduran Government salutes all friendly governments and nations, hoping they will be well and prosper and voicing the most honest desire that the conflicts in various nations in several parts of the world will be solved peacefully and that friendship and harmony will replace force and violence.

Fellow citizens, let us have faith in the future of our nation and let us accept the challenge to achieve a better future for our nation so that present and future generations can live in peace and harmony with all nations on earth.

NICARAGUA

RAMIREZ STRESSES POSITIVE ROLE OF BUSINESSMEN

PA081605 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] During a news conference yesterday at the Jose Benito Escobar Sandinist Workers Central, Dr Sergio Ramirez, member of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, said among other things that the Cuban revolution cannot be compared to Nicaragua's revolutionary process. Here a mixed economy exists that did not emerge as the result of a settlement or a political pact, but is part of a Sandinist concept.

He went on to say that although it is true that there is a minority of capitalist businessmen who make a lot of political noise and would like to manipulate the great silent majority of small and medium businessmen working with the revolution, that is their business. But we see that those bad businessmen have failed in their attempts or we would see it in the nation's economic results, he added.

Dr Ramirez Mercado replies here to one of the questions put to him:

[Begin recording] Companero, we cannot literally compare our situation with that of Cuba. The Cuban revolution occurred within its own historical context. Ours occurred with a national historic context that is different. Our reality is one thing; the Cuban reality is another. The process Cuba followed in its revolution is one thing, the process we follow in our revolution is another.

Here in Nicaragua, the mixed economy and the participation of private capital occur within the revolutionary process, in the reconstruction of the nation as part of the Sandinist concept. This participation was not imposed on the revolution. It was not the result of a pact. It was not the result of any arrangement or settlement. It was a Sandinist National Liberation Front decision to make these other sectors participate in the nation's economic life. This is in line with the concepts of our revolution and is important to

but I again insist that it is a participation to rebuild the nation, to reactivate the nation's economy, to advance, but this doesn't mean that this popular hegemony, which was achieved in the struggle, is going to yield. This is not the issue. The issue is joint and responsible participation, harmonious participation.

I do not agree with you on one thing: It is when you say that none of... [Ramirez changes thought] that is, the great majority of the capitalists here do not want to work. This is not true. There is a minority which manipulates the nation's businessmen. And this minority, through its representative, makes a lot of political noise and speaks in the name of this enormous silent majority, the many small, medium and even large businessmen who are really working. If this were not so, we would already be seeing it in the results of the nation's economy.

More than half of the nation's economy is in private hands. This is unbiased data. And in 1980, Nicaragua's economic growth was one of the biggest of Latin America. There were four countries in Latin America that had the highest economic growth and Nicaragua was among them.

If there were a boycott of production by private producers here, we would not have been among those four countries that had the highest production rate in Latin America. We would not be on the verge of harvesting the best cotton crop in Nicaraguan history. We are obtaining the highest yield of cotton, the best fiber length, the best fiber quality and the highest yield of cotton ever. And the people, the state, only sowed 25,000 of the 145,000 manzanas. We are citing a single example, cotton.

Therefore, there are businessmen who are really dedicated to work, to produce. They have proved that they are participating in the revolutionary process although there are many contradictions. This is obvious. There is contradiction. There are businessmen who have had to get used to new rules of the game. There are businessmen who now have to change working conditions because the revolution imposes it. Previously, other working conditions existed for their workers. But there is a majority participation. It exists. But propaganda-wise, this participation is drowned out by persons who publish large advertisements in the newspapers, who dedicate themselves to seeing only the negative aspect of the revolution and to criticizing the revolution.

And when one of their fellows is involved in counterrevolutionary or conspiratorial activities, alliances with the Somozist guard, and loses his life as a result of these conspiracies, they then dedicate themselves to defending him, to promoting him as though he were a great hero.

But we cannot say this is the feeling of the people who are producing in this country, but only of a minority that has no national feeling, a minority that has always seen Miami as its Mecca, which has always had a Yankeeized biology [biologia yankizada] and which has one foot in the United States and one foot--or at least a toe--in Nicaragua. But we cannot say these people represent the businessmen who are willing to produce in a state of popular characteristics such as ours. [end recording]

RAMIREZ SAYS NO DEBT OUTSTANDING WITH HONDURAS

PA081249 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Report by Eduardo Estrada]

[Excerpt] Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the junta of national reconstruction, has held an exclusive interview with Radio Sandino and has said that Nicaragua has no debt with the Honduran Government. He made the statement in response to a report which said that Honduras had asked our government to pay a $10 million debt. Here is what Dr Ramirez Mercado had to say about that:

[Begin recording] We have heard from a report in Honduras that the Nicaraguan Government supposedly has a debt with the Honduran Government. I think this must refer to the balance of trade. Since our goverment has commercial relations with Honduras, we export goods to them and they import goods from us and so there is always a balance of trade. Some of the news agencies, which are sometimes very alarmist, have surely taken some of these balances which may be negative to Nicaragua right now--although at other times they may be positive--and portrayed them as a debt.

We have no debt outstanding with the Honduran Government which has not lent us any money. This must be something concerning the balance of trade which is normal because we have a bilateral free trade treaty with Honduras and, as I have said, goods are exchanged between here and Honduras.

ATC SECRETARY SAYS WORKERS TO JOIN MILITIAS

PA022031 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Excerpt] The Farmworkers Association, ATC, will respond to our vanguard's call for defense and production by incorporating the poor and middle-class peasants and agricultural workers into the Sandinist People's Militias and by promoting the participation of those groups in management.

This was announced today by Companero Gualberto Lara Aguirre, ATC production secretary. The peasant leader said that the ATC will implement new forms of organization this year.

PCI'S PAJETTA MEETS WITH CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

LD081559 Rome L'UNITA in Italian 2 Jan 81 p 14

[Unattributed report: "Pajetta's Meeting at Communist Party of Cuba (PCC) Central Committee Headquarters"]

[Text] Havana--PCI [Italian Communist Party] Directorate member Comrade Gian Carlo Pajetta has met at PCC Central Committee headquarters with Comrade Jesus Montane Oropesa, PCC Central Committee Politburo candidate member and secretariat member. The two leaders had a broad exchange of opinions on the principal problems of the present international situation and on bilateral relations between the parties. The conversation, which took place in a cordial atmosphere, was also attended by Comrade Rafael Polanco, deputy chief of the PCC Central Committee General Department of Foreign Relations, and other officials of the same department.

MACHADO VENTURA CHAIRS SUGAR INDUSTRY MEETING

FL081127 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] PCC Politburo member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura has presided at a national meeting on the 5-year plan for the sugar industry sector during which he announced that the current harvest is making good progress, and recommended that the spring planting receive special attention. He stated that in this harvest it has been demonstrated that when the supply of raw material does not stop many sugar mills are capable of grinding at more than 85 percent of their capacity.

Meanwhile, it was learned that in the last 24 hours a colossal grinding had been attained which averaged 97 percent, increasing the national norm to 89 percent. Pinar del Rio was the only province which did not fulfilled its norm, while Matanzas, Granma, Cienfuegos, Las Tunas and Sancti Spiritus ground somewhat above 100 percent.

Yesterday, four provinces reported that sugar mills in their territories had joined the harvest. These were Santiago de Cuba, which now has seven mills grinding with the start of operations at the Salvador Rosales sugar mill, while Holguin announced the start of grinding at the Maceo sugar mill. Camaguey reported that the Sierra de Cubitas sugar mill of the municipality of Minas has started grinding. In Matanzas, the Espana Republicana sugar mill in Perico has begun grinding the current harvest.

RISQUET REPORTS ON TRANSPORT SYSTEM FUNCTION

FL071750 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] This year the country will be able to receive more goods as a result of the experience gained by the port-transportation-domestic economy during 1980 and because of the new technology and added space which will become available, PCC Politburo member Jorge Risquet has announced in Camaguey. Risquet stated that during 1980 more than 7.7 million tons of imported goods were handled and added that it could have been more if other scheduled shipments would have arrived during the middle of the year.

Risquet also said that Camaguey Province operated more railroad equipment in December than any other, more than 5,230, which is much more than Havana City Province's 4,000.

ECUADOR

NICARAGUAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS

PA082134 Paris AFP in Spanish 1928 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Quito, 8 Jan (AFP)--Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Father Miguel d'Escoto will meet here today with the top authorities of the Ecuadorean Government to strengthen the excellent bilateral relations that exist between the two countries.

The Nicaraguan foreign minister arrived here on Wednesday and will meet today with his Ecuadorean counterpart and with President Jaime Roldos after the cabinet meeting ends this afternoon.

Father Miguel d'Escoto, on his third visit to Ecuador since the Sandinist triumph in Nicaragua, will review with the Ecuadorean president the policy of his country and Latin America, as well as economic problems.

One of the points for discussion could be related to the replacement which the U.S. Standard Fruit Company will reportedly make of 200,000 tons annually by Ecuadorean bananas.

The company stopped operating in Nicaragua and could replace its fruit exports from Nicaragua with bananas from Ecuador.

Miguel d'Escoto attended President inauguration as well as the formation of the Latin American Human Rights Association.

The Nicaraguan minister will return to his country tomorrow, the Nicaraguan Embassy in Quito reported.

PERU

PERUVIAN CONGRESS PERMANENT COMMISSION ESTABLISHED

PY071641 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1130 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Summary] The Permanent Commission of Congress was established yesterday, headed by Oscar Trelles Montes.

In addressing the senators and deputies present at the first meeting, Oscar Trelles pointed out that this event was of vital importance to the (?congress) since it is the first time a permanent commission has been established in the political history of Peru.

VENEZUELA

OFFICIALS DENY COLOMBIAN CLAIMS ON DEPORTEES

PA062316 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Colombian civilian and military officials have shown an aggressive attitude and, with weapons in hand, have welcomed their fellow nationals deported from Venezuela. Verbal confrontation, threats and even the rattling of rifles have been cited to have happened. Those departed are the Colombians who did not heed the Venezuelan Government's appeal to register as aliens. Colombian officials are also trying to thwart the deportation measure by saying that many of the deported are not Colombian. That is completely false; Venezuelan authorities have reported.